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W. A. ANDERSON,
y Hunt County Alliance.
N. April 7, 1888.

are chronic grumblers, but
at that grumble about Cheat-
on, for it is even better than
d.

MERCURY:—I desire to suggest
y contributors a thing that has
curred to many others of your
well as to myself. Let every
date his or her communication
he postoffice from which they
the county. It is sometimes a
onsiderable interest to exactly
tributor; and the place given is
pring Creek." "Willow Hole,"
tion of the state is not desig-
much of the interest to the or
is lost. Yours,

WM. LAMEDIN.
exas, April 2.

Information Wanted.
the address of Peter D. Tolls,
ed Miss Jeraldine Latchfield of
ounty, Ala.

J. M. HILDRETH,
Vernon, Franklin Co., Tex.

OBITUARIES.

IBUTH OF RESPECT.
Sanders, a worthy member of
Alliance No. 172, died February
was a good christian mother and
She leaves a bereaved hus-
little children to mourn their
loss. No doubt, in her eter-
nal home, she will be comforted
by the thought that she has
left a good and true son in
the world.
S. A. ELLIS.
MISS ALLICE TYE.
April 5, 1888.

IN MEMORIAM.
F. Dawson departed this life
He leaves a bereaved wife
and a young son. He was a worthy
member of the Alliance, a good and
May God bless the widowed
and the child.
D. C. F. SNELL.
KELLY.
F. ALLEBRIGHT.
Com.

OR STOLEN.

15 hands high, four
16 (connected) on
the star in forehead,
and to his recovery will
be rewarded.
on. Heavine, Correll coun-

15 m. 10 1/2 hands high
on left shoulder
address J. B. Ros-
exas.

15 m. 10 1/2 hands high
on left shoulder
address J. B. Ros-
exas.

they could realize their present condition.
Suppose we could impress upon the mind
of every farmer the condition of our legis-
lation and the railroad system; why, I im-
agine that they would be aroused to such
an extent that the forthcoming election
day would be alarming, such interest being
manifested, which has heretofore been ly-
ing dormant.

We have been accused of disrupting the
democratic party by men who fill various
positions, and not friendly to our order,
while in our efforts to organize. And while
we grow and strengthen my own observa-
tion teaches me the more we are accused of
and the more feared at any time we may
not regarding our interest, and especially
at the ballot-box, then we are fit subjects
for criticism by the "white people," as they
assume the privilege to know and dictate.
I sometimes wish they would reflect and
catch on. We are not the attacking party;
we are the horse that has been caught,
flank girth, rode, poorly fed and rode again.
But now we have broken the bridle, but
still wear the saddle and its mark.

Now, Mr. Editor, if we stand like men at
the ballot-box we can get clear of that sad-
dle, as the rider can no more ride. Some
tell us that a farmer is not capable of mak-
ing a speech in the legislative halls. Now
we are not after big speeches, but want a
man who knows how to vote on certain
measures.

L. W. Belcher lectured our order a few
days ago and revived us up, as we had be-
come a little slow. We would love to have
such a man as Bro. Belcher in our ranks all
the time. We have a good president. He
is always punctual and encouraging, and
stands ever ready to defend our order and
its principles.

There are ten or twelve of our order tak-
ing THE MERCURY, for which the order
has furnished money from the treasury to
send the paper to a part of that number;
and I think that in all Alliances where a
little money has accumulated they should
do the same way. Let it be said that we
do all we can to send out THE MERCURY.
May it live always and never die.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Medina County.

EDITOR MERCURY:—Because no letters
appear in your paper from this, Francisco
Alliance, you need not think that we are
either dead or sleeping; but, on the contra-
ry, we are alive to the interest of the farm-
er and the Farmers Alliance principles.

Our Alliance numbers about forty, and of
that number we know of no drones. But if
there are any we hope they will become
converted to their own interest and to the
interest of others.

Mr. Editor, I might go on and write a
long letter cursing monopolies and reiterat-
ing something that has been written, but
this I see no sound judgment in. We all
admit that there are monopolies and that
farmers are depressed, but let them move
on in a mysterious way, carrying out the
truths they hold to and abusing as little as
possible.

We do desire to offer thanks to the breth-
ren of Lavaca county who have been send-
ing us cotton seed. If you ever get in the
same condition, (which we hope you never
will), we will certainly repay.

es.
rothers and sist-
us. Study our own
ests, for you may be certain that those mon-
opolists and bankers, "sattaps" and nomi-
nal representatives of ours will try to do
nothing for us, but will try to do every-
thing against us if they see the interest of
the banker, monopolist, trust or land-grab-
ber is in any danger of being interfered
with by any honest law-maker at Washing-
ton or at Austin.

I would suggest to my brethren, and to
all honest men, to keep their eyes open
when the candidates announce themselves
and know that they are honest and qual-
ified to fill the office before you vote for
them; and above all, exact a promise from
them that they will study and advance the
interest of the farmer and all other toilers
and producers. Yours,

JNO. P. FOLAN.

Igma Vista Alliance.

Practical Suggestions On An Important Question.

EDITOR MERCURY:—By years of expe-
rience in teaching and a practical knowl-
edge of all expenses incidental to school
patrons, the undersigned are impelled to
suggest through the columns of our organ
a plan by which one of the most onerous
and unnecessarily excessive burdens upon
the educational interests of the public in
general and the Alliance in particular,
may be considerably lightened.

The plan we would suggest is an elobora-
tion on the idea, as already originated by
the Alliance of furnishing to the order, at
about their actual worth, a series of school
text books. It is patent to every one who
feels sufficient concern to investigate, that
the standard school books now in use are
sold at prices extravagantly exorbitant
compared with price of production. Pub-
lishers and dealers assign in justification
the two reasons for high prices, first, that
an authors known ability and reputation en-
titles him to extra pay for his production;
which is of course taxed on the book; and
second, that the varied preferences of teach-
ers and committees as to the several series
of books, requires the dealer to keep in
stock such varied assortment that to com-
pensate for outlay of money in purchase
he must realize an extra per centage on
each book sold.

We submit that the following sugges-
tions carried into effect would eliminate at
least these two factors in the final cost of
the books and also perhaps a third, to wit:
the profit of the retail dealer. The several
publishing houses of the country are
making strenuous efforts to secure adoption
by counties of their special text books for
a term of years, and if the Alliance should
delay moving in the matter it is probable
that every county in the state will be short-
ly committed to these several publishing
concerns. Publishers have the support of
dealers—the anti-Alliance element gener-
ally, and of most teachers not connected with
the Alliance.

Our suggestions are, first, let the board
of managers of the Publishing House call a
convention of the teachers belonging to the
Alliance in each congressional district in
the state, at some point in their respective
district and assign to each district some
particular branch called for in the public
school law, with the request that they com-
pile the Alliance a text book on that

Constitution. I simply call attention to its
inconsistency, but want to say that in my
opinion it is unworthy of patronage on ac-
count of the aid it gives to one of the great-
est swindlers now tolerated in the whole
country, the Louisiana lottery. But there
is big money in it and what cares the Con-
stitution that its readers are being educated
to the idea of taking chances of drawing
prizes and getting something for nothing,
and so spending hundreds of thousands of
dollars on that mammoth swindle? Not con-
tent with this, it has inaugurated one of its
own—says it is not a lottery, only dividing
profits with patrons. The Constitution
knows better, and everybody ought to know
that this scheme, as well as the bean battles
of other papers, has but one object, to make
money; but one result, the demoralization
of the public conscience on the subject of
getting money by chance. The animus of
the whole thing is the same, is but a game
of chance. The professional gambler takes
his on the throw of a card or dice, and
those on the result of a guess on the draw-
ing of a number. Away with such hypocrisy!
down with such papers! and up with better
sheets.
M. F. ROSSER.

Leesbury, April 7, 1888.

Smith County.

EDITOR MERCURY:—Enclosed find one
dollar to pay for THE MERCURY for what
time it will pay. Send to W. B. Campbell,
Mount Sylvan, Smith county, Texas. We
cannot afford to do without the dear de-
fender of our rights.

The Alliance is undergoing a dearth in
some peculiar localities, where certain
rings, professions and tricksters have the
ascendancy. When it is impossible for any
sub-Alliance to live and prosper, from any
of the above causes, let them dimt and
join some live working Alliance, where
they will be better prepared to bear the
opposition, and often the vituperation that
is so unjustly heaped upon them. Alliance
men and women, be up and doing, recruit-
ing your ranks, for the material you fail to
get as members will be used by our oppo-
nents to make more capital, more corpora-
tions, more syndicates to consume us and
our effects. Who can afford to be a slug-
gard in the great battle for home and
rights? Who of us can fight the battle of
life singly against organized rings and cor-
porations which affront us from every town
of importance in our beloved country. As
the battle against us is by organized effort,
so will we, dear brothers and sisters, con-
tinue a unit for protection to ourselves and
to posterity. Who is able to estimate the
amount of good already accomplished by
the dear old Alliance organization. Its
good effects are visible all along the line,
from the Pacific slope on the west to the
Atlantic on the east; from Wisconsin on
north to the gulf on the south. Where is
the brother who has made a good member
for two years, or less, who is not ready
with uplifted hands to say, "May all the
sons of toll in this fair land join with us in
the crusade against oppressions which
would have bound us and our children in a
worse slavery than that which bound the
African slaves. Fraternally,

JNO. M. CASTLES.

Smith County Business Agent.
Mount Sylvan, Tex., April 1.

general that monopolies and high
freight charges are detrimental to the pro-
ducing classes in America. But I will join
your correspondents this far, I am willing
as a democrat to say that I will attend my
precinct and county or state conventions
and do all I can to prevent having for a
nominee a man not strictly honest and not
in sympathy with the producing interest of
our country. I am willing to make a fight
against village goods-box whittlers, bar-
room ward drummers of the city and the
standing candidate for any office he can get.
I am willing to apply the pruning knife
liberally in the party, but as a body let us
steer clear of the awful vortex, the yawning
and unfathomable gulf of politics. I
know that we need national and state legis-
lation. For twenty-five years nearly all leg-
islation, both state and national, have been
death-dealing to the man with the hoe. I
know it is wrong, despicable, devilish, hell-
born iniquity for men to corner our pork,
cotton, corn, wheat, oats and any other pro-
ducts of the farmer. Yet the law does
thus favor. I know that it is wrong to
band together and put a price through the
Exchanges and trade boards on our pro-
ducts and its transportation. I know that
we are men groaning under the coils of the
Python, and that we must have years of fa-
vorable legislation to gain the equal rights
of every citizen that is guaranteed to him
in the federal constitution. But can it be
done by another party. My idea is to make
the fight for good and better men as the
party leaders, and to aggregate our own capi-
tal, erect our own exchanges, manufactories,
our banks, and create a monopoly of
our own, and put a price on our own pro-
ducts, to be regulated only upon the law of
supply and demand. Let us live and enjoy
life from the proceeds of our labor, and let
the barons rustle for their bread and meat
behind the business end of a festive mule
and forty acres of land, following the in-
junction of the scripture, "by the sweat of
the face get your grub." Aggregate our
capital and co-operate in business, be hon-
est one with the other. With unity and har-
mony we are bound to bring about the de-
sired result, elevate the farmer, make labor
honorable and reduce the snob and drone
to their proper sphere, (scavengers.) At-
tention to our business and adherence to
our principles, and the full discharge of
every duty of a good citizen, will, in a lit-
tle time, put us in prosperity, this we can't
do in the cesspools of politics. Therefore
the admonition, drop politics as a third
party, but see that good, honest incorrupt-
able men be selected to fill the halls of
Texas' new capital, as also of the nation.

Fraternally,

JNO. M. CLAIRBORNE.

Madeleine Place, Apr., 10, '88.

Queen City Tannery.

Farmers will find it to their interest to
purchase their leather and horse collar's at
our factory.

WALKER & KEITH, Props.
Fort Worth, Tex.

To Farmers.

It will pay farmers who visit Fort Worth
to stop at the Continental Hotel, corner 15th
and Calhoun streets, on street car line.
This house is newly furnished and is kept
neat and clean. Free conveyance from
depot. Rates satisfactory.

J. W. CLOOK, Prop.
JOHN M. BLANKS, Clerk.